

I've worked in the internet and internet related industries for about ten years now and VoIP wiretaps do not make sense. From my understanding pre internet wiretaps did not degrade performance, and did not cost the spied upon money. VoIP internet wiretaps will degrade performance and cost businesses and consumers money.

VoIP traffic is data just like any other data stream.

1. Case of direct connect from my network. It will degrade my bandwidth, the life blood of the individual net connection.

Business owners will not be ok with wiretaps on internal networks. As a network administrator how can I verify the integrity of my local area network with a tap on it?

2. Case of 'eaves dropped' connection from my provider. It will cause Point 1, above, to my provider. I can't see it actually working because data is easily tunneled away by use of a encrypted VPN. I would imagine sending data outside of the country would get around the VoIP wire tap using a VPN or multiple tunnels.

Blocking VPN's or blocking encrypted tunneling would bring commerce on the internet to a halt. All internet servers that make an encrypted connection to another server would have to be tapped.

Good System Administrators have a mindset that everything can be broken into. Wiretaps on their networks will bring revolt from the administrators and business owners who want secure networks.

Probably the most important question, criminally speaking, why would I use VoIP if it could be tapped? Why wouldn't I use some other messaging system, such as embed data within pictures in newsgroups or file sharing networks, or just plainly sending a non standard formatted sound file? Even encoding the clip to look like a damaged archive file could do wonders to stop unwanted eyes/ears.

I understand the reason for VoIP taps, I just don't see VoIP wiretaps doing anything other than causing more damage to the internet as a whole than it can return in viable tapping use.

Assuming this has already all been thought of, this leads me to ask what is the true reason for asking for VoIP taps? And my assumption is to follow the money or power trail.